THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) After wooden slippers have spent their useful life in the track and become unfit for use in Railway tracks, they are put to other uses or disposed off as scrap.

Doubling of Shoranur-Mangalore rail line

2846. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government took urgent steps to complete the ongoing doubling of rail line between Shoranur and Mangalore;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken to ensure safety of Rail bridges on this route, after the collapse of bridge at Kadulundi;

(d) how many new bridges are going to be constructed on this line; and

(e) the details regarding the progress of this construction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Work is in progress in various stages in entire section. Necessary funds have been allocated for the work in the current year.

(c) The bridges are being inspected at various levels from Section Engineer level to Chief Engineer level as per prescribed schedule and system and repairs are being carried out promptly and action taken to rehabilitate bridges on programmed basis subject to availability of funds.

(d) and (e) 14 bridges are sanctioned for rehabilitation on this section and are in various stages of progress.

Doubling of Bina and Ashok Nagar Rail Line

2847. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that passengers at Bina Railway Station, from all over India, have to wait for several hours for going to Anandpur (M.P.) due to single rail line between Bina and Ashok Nagar;